

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated August 10, 2004. Claims 1-15, 17-30, 34-51, and 53 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 15, 17, 36, 51, and 53 are in independent form. Claims 33, 52, and 54 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 7, 15, 23, 34, and 43 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Examiner is thanked for the allowance of Claims 1-6, 8-15, 17-22, 24, 26-30, 34-42, and 44-51.

Claims 15, 34, and 53 were objected to because of the informalities noted at pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action.

Applicants have amended these claims to overcome the objection. It is believed that the objection has been obviated, and Applicants respectfully request its withdrawal.

Applicants also note the Examiner's comments regarding Claims 53 being a substantial duplicate of Claim 54. As noted above, Claim 54 has been canceled, although Applicants do not concede the propriety of the comments.

Claims 7, 23, 25, and 43 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The formula in Claims 7, 23, and 43 has been amended to correct the typographical errors introduced in the Supplemental Amendment filed on March 10, 2004. Claim 25, which depends from Claim 23, has not been amended, because Applicants believe that by amending Claim 23, the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection of Claim 25 has been overcome. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the rejection under Section 112, second paragraph, has been obviated, and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 52 and 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Without conceding the propriety of this rejection, each Claim 52 and 54 has been canceled, thereby rendering its Section 101 rejection moot.

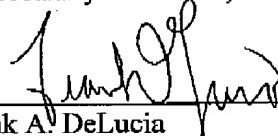
Claims 33 and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,675,706 (*Lee et al.*).

Without conceding the propriety of this rejection, each Claim 33 and 52 has been canceled, thereby rendering its Section 102(b) rejection moot.

Accordingly, only claims which are believed to be in condition for allowance remain. Applicants respectfully request the expedited processing of this application, as well as favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue thereof.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank A. DeLucia
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,476

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

NYMAIN445716